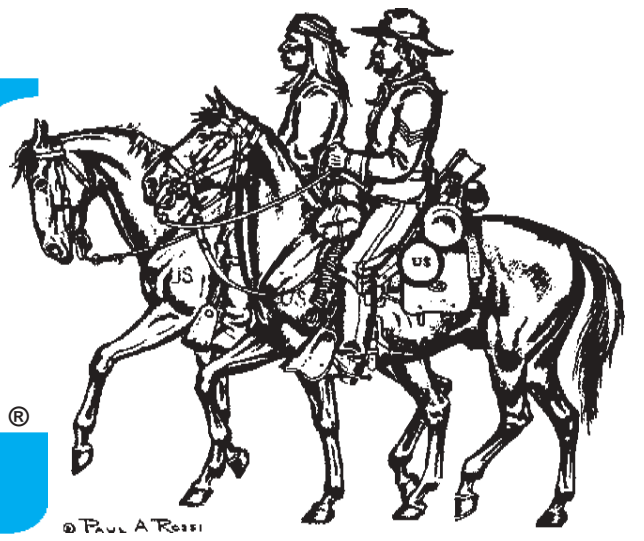




# The Fort Huachuca Scout



Vol. 48, NO. 49 Published in the interest of Fort Huachuca personnel and their families December 12, 2002

## Scout reports

e-mail: thescout@hua.army.mil  
website: huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO

### Christmas lights hours

The Directorate of Installation Support has set the hours from dusk to 11 p.m. for having outdoor Christmas lights and decorations lit.

Help conserve energy and reduce the risk of fire by turning off all electrical items before going to sleep each night.

### Commissary holiday hours

The Fort Huachuca Commissary doesn't want you to miss out on your traditional holiday feast because of last minute shopping.

The Commissary will close at 3 p.m. Dec. 24 and will be closed on Christmas Day and New Years Day.

For more information, call Judy Mendez at 533-5540, extension 101.

### Scout publication

The Fort Huachuca Scout will print its final 2002 edition Dec. 19. The next edition of the Scout will be Jan. 9, 2003.

Deadline for story submittal is Jan. 3, 2003. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks at 533-2622.

### Battle of the bells

Come support Fort Huachuca chaplains Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. as they compete with the off-post clergy in the "Battle of the bells."

Post chaplains and members of their units will be at Target ringing the Salvation Army bell; simultaneously off-post clergy will be ringing the bell at WalMart. The goal is two-fold: both want to raise money for the Salvation Army's ministries in the local community and the post "team" wants to raise more money than "the other guys."

### Dental after hours care

For true dental emergencies (severe pain, facial trauma, increasing swelling associated with a dental infection, or an after surgery complication such as uncontrollable bleeding) occurring after normal clinic hours, please contact the following:

Dental Charge of Quarters cell phone is 508-9700, DCQ Beeper is 533-3500, digital access code-# 306.

Family members should seek emergency care from their Tricare Dental Plan personal dentist.

Retirees should seek emergency care from the Tricare Retiree Dental Plan personal dentist.

Questions can be referred to Runion Dental Clinic at 533-3147.

Dental Command policy requires that any female seeking after hours emergency care must have an escort with them at all times.

### Telephone books

The new Cochise County telephone directories are available for pickup at the Official Mail and Distribution Center of the Directorate of Information Management.

The OMDC is located in the back of Building 22408 at Christy Avenue and Butler Road. Operating hours are 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. (closed for lunch from noon - 1 p.m.)

Please recycle the old directories at one of the recycling locations. The point of contact is Gayle Olson at 533-3932.

### East Gate closure

The East Gate will be closed over the holiday season. The schedule is as follows:

Closing date/time - Dec. 23 - 10 p.m.; Dec. 30 - 10 p.m.

Opening date/time - Dec. 26 - 4:30 a.m.; Jan. 2 - 4:30 a.m.

## TRADOC urges winter safety

By Jim Caldwell  
TRADOC News Service

The cold spell that hit several southern states Dec. 4-5 raised the Training and Doctrine Command Surgeon's concern for welfare of soldiers in training.

"I don't think our training base has seen weather like this for some time," said Dr. (Col.) Bernard DeKoning, TRADOC Surgeon. "We're looking at an unseasonably cold winter following an unseasonably hot summer.

Cold injuries can hospitalize soldiers, but the good news is that they're rarely fatal. The exception is hypothermia, when the core body temperature drops below 95 degrees Fahrenheit, or 35 degrees Centigrade.

Another life threatening condition during

winter is carbon monoxide poisoning, caused by faulty heaters in "heat tents" or confined spaces.

"We still have the potential for serious injury from carbon monoxide poisoning if the right kind of stove isn't used," said Dave Prentice, TRADOC Safety Office. "The stove used in the heat tent or other indoor areas must be an Army-approved, vented stove.

"Unless you're dealing with hypothermia or carbon monoxide poisoning, when you drag someone out of the water, cold injuries rarely result in fatalities," DeKoning said.

A heat tent is one of the precautions taken when soldiers are training outdoors. One approach is to allow soldiers to warm in a "heat tent." Ironically, some winter injuries occur in the heat tents.

In his view, winter weather offers significant advantages over hot summer temperatures. But soldiers still must maintain their fluid and food consumption, along with approved winter clothing.

"In winter, you can put on enough clothes to keep you warm," Prentice said. "In summer you have the heat risk factor, now matter how few clothes you wear."

Safety approaches in cold weather do not necessarily mean that cold is the reverse of heat, DeKoning said. However, some approaches are opposite of how they are done in the summer.

In winter, the more active soldiers are, the longer they can operate outdoors with

See WINTER, Page 7

## Operation Chill

### Tis the season to avoid driving aggressively

By Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart  
Scout News Editor

"More servicemembers are dieing because of vehicle accidents than because of combat," said Bruce Heran, Fort Huachuca safety officer.

One of the ways to avoid tragedy during this holiday season is to drive courteously and to ignore aggressive drivers.

According to Sgt. Vincent Fero, a supervisor with the Arizona Department of Public Safety, anyone, male or female, young or old, in any type of car can be an aggressive driver depending on the circumstances.

He said road rage is more evident during this time of year. "People have more issues to deal with during the holiday season, and increased financial concerns. Military personnel also have the added burden of being away from their loved ones," Fero noted.

He said aggressive drivers speed, run red lights and stop signs, make unsafe lane changes, use improper hand and facial gestures, honk their horn and flash their lights.

To deal with aggressive driving, Arizona has implemented ARS 28-695 which is a combination of speed and moving violations. Fero defined aggressive driving as, "Operating a motor vehicle in a manner which endangers or is likely to endanger persons or property."

In order to be prosecuted, the behavior must be an immediate hazard to others. Offenders can be prosecuted for a Class 1 misdemeanor and face mandatory education.

He went on to say depending how flagrant the violation is, the offender could be charged with reckless driving which would put eight points on their driving record. Aggressive driving will cause an offender to get six points put on their driving record.

"Road rage is a crime. If you get charged with road

See DRIVING, Page 7



Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert A. Hyatt

### Cease fire

***Spc. Matt Marple, 18th Military Police Detachment, tries to balance several magazines during weapons qualification training. As the ammo bearer, it was his responsibility to ensure each 30-round magazine was loaded with the proper amount of rounds.***

## Signal soldiers rally together for support, deploy overseas

By 1st Lt. Traci J. Gift  
11th Sig. Bde. PAO

The 11th Signal Brigade soldiers and family members held a rally Monday for brigade soldiers who are deploying to the Central Command area of operation in support of the president's campaign against terrorism.

Soldiers of 11th Sig. Bde. are an integral part of the Army, because their wartime mission is to provide command and control communications support to Army commanders in a tactical and strategic environment worldwide.

In order to commemorate the event, the command held a "so long" ceremony with a "pep rally" flare. Lt. Col. John Dewey, 40th Signal Battalion commander, insisted on saying "so long" instead of "farewell," because the soldiers will return when their job is complete.

"We go places and do things," Dewey said repeatedly. "The soldiers of 11th Signal Bri-

gade don't just practice their military specialties, but they actually go places and do their job."

Each of the communications and support teams deploying were recognized during the rally. The event was filled with enthusiasm, laughter and smiles, which is what the command intended.

Sgt. Jason Duchette, switch operator and maintainer, Company B, 40th Sig. Bn., said he is looking forward to this deployment and has been waiting to go for quite some time. The last time Duchette deployed, he was a specialist.

He is looking forward to taking charge of his communications switch as a sergeant. Fam-



Photo by 1st Lt. Traci Gift

***Lt. Col. John Dewey, 40th Signal Battalion commander, "high-fives" Sgt. First Class Aguon, as Command Sgt. Maj. Sherry Scheel, 40th Sig. Bn. command sergeant major, "high-fives" Capt. Earnest Tornabell. Soldiers rally behind in support of their battalion.***

ily members are not looking forward to their spouses and loved ones leaving, especially over the holiday season, but they realize it comes with the territory of being married to a soldier.



# Holiday Message

*The following is a joint message from the Honorable Thomas E. White, Secretary of the Army, and General Eric K. Shinseki, Army Chief of Staff; for all Army activities and Army family members:*

During the holidays, families gather to share in the celebrations of the season. Our Army family is unique — among us, we share a special bond, a common understanding of the inherent sacrifices and hardships of being an army family. So we are additionally blessed to be able to celebrate our special heritage — the legacy of hope that our soldiers represent to the nation.

On a bitter-cold christmas night in 1776, Gen. George Washington and his Continental Army crossed the Delaware River to execute a bold plan against the British forces. Driving sleet and snow made the freezing temperatures all the more unbearable. Despite those harsh conditions, the soldiers did not complain — some of them had no shoes; some wrapped rags around their feet to help keep them warm; still others remained barefoot. As one of Gen. Washington’s staff officers recorded, the soldiers were “ready to suffer any hardship and die rather than give up their liberty.” In the most difficult conditions, against the greatest odds, the soldiers performed magnificently, and

their victory in the Battle of Trenton the day after Christmas renewed the hopes of freedom in the American revolution.

Undiminished still today is that same spirit of determination, perseverance, selfless service and courage that moved the soldiers of the Continental Army on christmas night in 1776. We share in the enduring legacy of those who first fought and died to win our freedom — we stand on the shoulders of the brave men and women who have preceded us.

We know that we do not soldier alone. With each of our soldiers on point in more than 120 countries around the globe is the spirit of a tremendous family — a family whose courage, sacrifice, and steadfastness are inspiring to us all. And all of our efforts, all of our successes, all of our magnificent moments as an Army will continue to be delivered by our people — soldiers, civilians, veterans, retirees, and all of their families. We are grateful for their commitment, their loyalty, and their devotion.

We could not be more proud of all of you and of the magnificent work you do each and every day to preserve the gifts of hope and of freedom that we cherish. May you have a safe, fulfilling, and joyful holiday season and a prosperous new year. God bless each of you and your families, God bless the army, and God bless this great nation.

# Commander’s Hotline

### Call:

During the 6:30-7:30 a.m. rush on Monday through Friday, the light at the intersection of Arizona and Irwin flashes red in both directions. There are road guards at this intersection whose job is to stop traffic so that those soldiers running physical training can cross Arizona Street without having to stop for traffic.

At times, some road guards have the courtesy and common sense to motion vehicular traffic through the light when it’s safe to do so. However, since these road guards aren’t authorized by the provost marshal or some higher authority, any driver not stopping at the intersection is ticketed by an occasional MP lying in wait.

It’s bad enough that soldiers are running in an area of relatively high volume traffic, but to then impede traffic when there are no runners in the area is ludicrous.

I’m surprised that this has gone on as long as it has. I wasn’t aware that the road

guards didn’t have the authority to do anything other than stop traffic while runners are in the intersection. Isn’t stopping traffic something that only an MP can do? If they can stop traffic why can’t they motion traffic through at their discretion?

I suggest these road guards be given the authority to motion traffic through the intersection, when safe for the runners. The noncommissioned officer of these road guards is there, evidently, to provide guidance and supervision. Why can’t the NCO be given the overall authority to provide good traffic flow and safety for the road guards and runners.

If authority can’t be passed to the road guards then an MP could be posted to direct traffic and help control the flow of traffic, providing an environment of safety. This is better than the stealth methods presently employed by the MP’s to write tickets for

See HOTLINE, Page 7

# Scout on the Street



*Full Metal Jacket because of the reality behind the war and training of recruits. Being a drill sergeant it's something I can relate to.*

**Drill Sgt. Travas Rider,**  
**Company D, 309th**  
**Military Intelligence**  
**Battalion**



*It has to be Patton, because my husband was in World War II. We used to live in Pennsylvania and we drove all the way to Harrisburg from where we lived to see it.*

**Heidi Hess,**  
**retired**



*Platoon, because of the realization and it was a true story.*

**Connie Tagle,**  
**assistant manager,**  
**General Nutrition Center**



*I like Black Hawk Down, it was really good and showed you what happened. We had a class on the movie in which we analyzed the different scenes; we got a lot out of the movie.*

**Sgt. 1st Class Marcus**  
**Lane, B**  
**Company, 40th**  
**Signal Battalion**



*Pearl Harbor, the latest war movie. I always wanted to be a pilot. It had a lot of realistic special effects.*

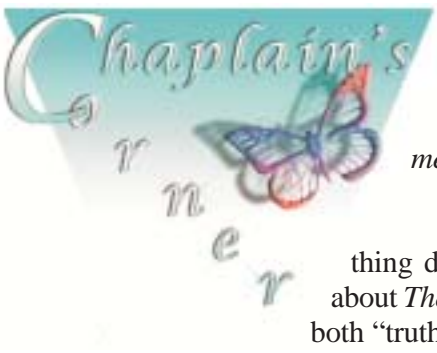
**Spc. Steven McPhee,**  
**Company C, 40th**  
**Signal Battalion**



*Saving Private Ryan because I like Tom Hanks.*

**Spc. Hank Beasley,**  
**518th Signal Battalion**

Photos by Staff Sgt. Bob Hyatt



*Chaplain (Maj.) Dennis R. Nitschke*  
*NETCOM, Deputy Command Chaplain*

*“On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to me...” (from The 12 Days of Christmas)*

In the spirit of the season, I was looking for something dealing with hymns and remembered something I read about *The 12 Days of Christmas*. Researching on the Web I found both “truth” and “urban legend” sites about the background of the song. One touched me, which I share here, in that it doesn’t matter how the “story” came about with the song, but that the “story” came about at all. So when you sing *The 12 Days of Christmas*, I hope you remember what the “story” is about the gifts given. Whatever your background, the tenets written below would do us all well to be on our hearts – not only during Christmas, but the whole year.

*On the first day of Christmas...A partridge in a pear tree.* This is the Son of God. He is the “mother partridge.” She would act injured in the face of predators in order to draw them away and protect her chicks. Jesus said, “Jerusalem! Jerusalem! How often would I have sheltered you under My wings, as a hen does her chicks...”

*On the second day of Christmas...2 turtle doves.* The Old and New Testaments. These books have guided nations and are written into our documents defining order and life.

*On the third day of Christmas...3 French Hens.* The virtues of faith, hope and charity (love, if you wish). Great things happen in our world when these are our guides.

*On the fourth day of Christmas...4 calling birds.* The four gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Again, great words for the world.

*On the fifth day of Christmas...5 golden rings.* The first five books of the Old Testament (the Pentateuch: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy) scriptural history of mankind’s fall from grace and movement back to God.

*On the sixth day of Christmas...6 geese a-laying.* The six days of creation in the Bible. Gives a sense of order and care by a mother in her nest.

*On the seventh day of Christmas...7 swans a swimming.* The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, right judgment, courage, knowledge, reverence, wonder and awe in God’s Presence. (Isaiah 1:1-3) Wouldn’t these be great gifts for every family?

*On the eighth day of Christmas...8 maids a-milking.* The eight Beatitudes: blessed be: the poor, those that mourn, the meek, hunger and thirst for righteousness, merciful, pure in heart, peacemakers, and the persecuted (Matthew 5:3-10). For these shall be blessed by God.

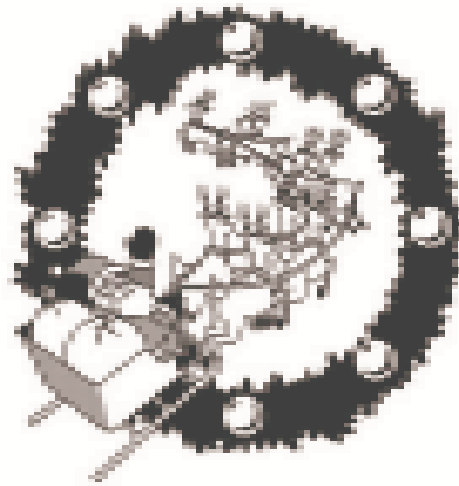
*On the ninth day of Christmas...9 ladies dancing.* The nine fruits (different from gifts) of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, and self-control. Again, not bad gifts to share in the family or at work.

*On the tenth day of Christmas...10 lords a-leaping.* The ten commandments.

*On the eleventh day of Christmas...11 pipers piping.* The eleven faithful disciples of Christ.

*On the twelfth day of Christmas...12 drummers drumming.* The twelve points of the Apostle’s Creed: goes from believing in one God to the resurrection (long list).

Anyway, as you look over the list, I hope you see the gifts received every time you sing this carol. Whether or not the carol was written with these in mind, it is a good tool to remind us, and our children, what the season is all about. Blessings to you all – and only a few more days until the “main event.”



*The Fort Huachuca Scout*  
*newspaper staff*  
*extends their warmest wishes*  
*for a joyous holiday season*

TheFortHuachucaScout®

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# Sergeant Audie Murphy Club induct three NCOs into elite organization

By Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Donald Sparks  
NCOIC, USAIC&FH PAO

The Fort Huachuca Chapter of the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club inducted three noncommissioned officers into the prestigious organization in a ceremony held Friday at Greely Hall.

The inductees were Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class George Ursia Jr, Intelligence Electronic Warfare Test Directorate, Operational Test Command, Staff Sgt. Russell McLeod, IEWTD, OTC, and Sgt. Joseph Rogers, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 306<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Battalion.

The event also featured Judy Barnett, Monica Neal and Martina Peters inducted to the Dr. Mary E. Walker club, named after the only woman to ever receive the Congressional Medal of Honor.

The Sergeant Audie Murphy Club is an elite organization of NCOs who have demonstrated performance and inherent leadership qualities and abilities characterized by those of Sgt. Audie Murphy, the highest decorated soldier of World War II.

Members exemplify leadership characterized by personal concern for the needs, training, development and welfare of soldiers and concern for families of soldiers. The inductees were:

Sgt. Joseph Rogers  
**Hometown:** Russellville, Ky.

**Entered Army:** June 16, 1997

**Reason joined the Army:** To get out and see the world while serving my country. Plus, ever since I was a child playing in the backyard while on daily missions of stalking my best friend, and shooting him down with a yellow machine gun, that was the funniest time of my life, so I figured I would come and play with the big boys.

**What it means to be an NCO:** A true leader. One who



exemplifies what a leader is. Being an NCO is a skill that can be studied, learned, and perfected. Always striving to excel.

An NCO leads by example, trains from experience, maintains and enforces the Army standards, and takes care of soldiers. Motivating younger Americans to be better citizens and soldiers. Being an NCO is being the one whom sets the standards, and meets them.

**What it means being in the SAMC:** It is a new and challenging responsibility, based on professionalism, loyalty, discipline and caring. It will be a new chapter written in my long book of life.

I will have new standards to maintain and enforce. Every professional sport has a “Hall of Fame,” the Army’s is the SAMC.

**Best leadership attribute:** Being able to talk to soldiers from completely different backgrounds in all spectrums of life and pull them together to play as a member of a team.

**Future goals:** Attend the Basic Noncommissioned Officers Course. Then I would like to attend Drill Sergeant School shortly after I finish recruiting duty.

Then hopefully in the following years attend Warrant Officer Candidate School, and become an Army aviator.

Staff Sgt. Russell McLeod  
**Hometown:** Lake Park, Ga.

**Date entered the Army:** Feb. 1993

**Reason joined the Army:** To serve my country, to fulfill my commitment with honor and to see the world.

**What means to be an NCO:** I take great pride and personal satisfaction to be able to represent and be part of the NCO Corps.

Most importantly, my ability to influence people by providing them purpose and direction while improving my unit at the same time.

**What it means being in the SAMC:** I am very honored



to be a member of the SAMC. It emulates the very professionalism that all NCOs strive for. Being an active member of SAMC constantly reminds me of being a true professional as a soldier both on and off duty.

**What is your best leadership attribute:** My assertiveness and determination.

**Future goals:** Sustain being a leader and professional, get promoted to sergeant first class, and complete my undergraduate degree.

Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class George E. Ursia Jr.

**H o m e t o w n :** Northampton, Ma.

**Date entered the Army:** June 1985

**Reason joined the Army:** To serve my country.

**What it means to be NCO:** To lead, train and take care of soldiers. To seek out, take on and handle greater and greater responsibilities as the opportunities present themselves.

**What it means being in the SAMC:** “Lead from the front,” is the SAMC motto. Being a SAMC member, not only raises the expectation to be at “the front,” but also validates the fact that this is a leader to be followed.

As a leader, I can now better recommend to other soldiers what it means to strive toward this goal, and even more what it means to have attained it. It is an honor and a privilege to join the ranks of the other outstanding NCOs in SAMC, and to be one of the NCO leaders that “make things happen.”

**What is your best leadership attribute:** Initiative and awareness

**Future Goals:** Earn a master’s degree, become a master sergeant, continue to proudly serve my country, not just until retirement from active military service, but also in my next career.



## Bringing the Community Into Contact

## National Guard unit supports force protection mission

### Directorate of Public Safety release

Continuing the informative series on the Directorate of Public Safety, one facet can be highlighted as the newest addition to DPS.

This addition is the B Battery, 2-142 Field Artillery of the Arkansas Army National Guard. The Field Artillery soldiers are a critical asset to securing and protecting the Fort Huachuca community.

Following the tragic events on Sept. 11, 2001, many installations throughout the armed forces were identified as being in need of increased security, which necessitated a larger security force.

Approximately 35,000 National Guard and Reservists have been mobilized in the United States. Based on the ongoing war on terrorism, mobilization of Army National Guard soldiers to protect our military communities will more than likely continue.

At Fort Huachuca this force is operationally controlled by the Directorate of Public Safety and administratively supported by the garrison commandant.

The transition from training as an artillery unit to training as an installation force protection and quick reaction force was quite a change.

The cross training with military police and the different tasks they are trained on has been a great training opportunity. The 18<sup>th</sup> Military Police Detachment provided force protection training for the artillery soldiers once they arrived at Fort Huachuca.

Although some of the training was simply a review of what the unit received during mobilization, various DPS and installation organizations provided site-specific training based on their field of expertise.

Searching a vehicle, search and clearing a building, react to bomb threats and use of force provided by the Staff Judge Advocate office are just a few examples of the training all B Battery, 2-142<sup>nd</sup> FA soldiers received.

In addition to the installation quick reaction force, one of our other primary missions is installation access control. Although it sounds like a simple task it can be quite challenging. The soldiers at the access points to the installation look at everyone’s ID entering the installation.

They are checking for accuracy, authenticity and verification for access to the post for six forms of military identification.

Some people who enter the installation feel this can be somewhat of a nuisance, but if it was not for those soldiers checking everyone entering the installation; there would be no accountability for who was coming and going.

The need to protect our forces and military communities is critical to keeping our armed forces prepared to protect our nation. B Battery, 2-142<sup>nd</sup> FA soldiers are willing, ready and able to meet that mission. The recent installation force protection exercise also helped the battery to ensure it was adequately trained and prepared to protect the fort’s community.

*Editors Note: This is a continuation of Directorate of Public Safety articles provided to make the community aware of DPS missions and issues involving public safety.*



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart

**Spc. Patrick Riley, K-9 dog handler and Rocky came in fifth in the area search competition and Sgt.. Travis Butzen and his dog Wendy came in first place in explosive detection and fourth place in the agility competition in a law a Tucson law enforcement competition .**

# ‘It’s a dog’s life,’ MP K9 teams garner law enforcement awards

By Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart  
Scout News Editor

Two 18th Military Police Detachment K-9 teams took first and fourth place during a law enforcement competition held Nov. 15-17 at Reed Park in Tucson.

Two combined Fort Huachuca and Fort Sill teams also took fifth place in the agency division. Fifty-four teams participated and some came from as far away as Las Vegas and Las Cruces, N.M.

Sgt. Travis Butzen, a dog-handler with the 18<sup>th</sup> Military Police Detachment K-9 unit and his military working dog Wendy, 7, took first place in explosive detection and fourth place in the agility competition. Spc. Patrick Riley and his canine partner Rocky, 6, took fifth place in the area search competition.

Butzen, who has two uncles who were police officers, grew up around animals and said he pretty much always knew he wanted to become a military police officer.

He’s been Wendy’s handler for two years. She’s a Belgian tervuren and trained to detect narcotics and explosives. He said she can detect marijuana, hash, cocaine and methamphetamine.

Riley, who has been working with Rocky a Dutch shepherd since July, said it took three and a half years for him to get the opportunity to become a dog handler.

*“I love working with dogs and grew up around them. I love working the road and having the dog with me because I have automatic backup if I need it.*

**Spc. Patrick Riley,  
K9 handler,  
18th Military Police Detachment**

“I love working with dogs and grew up around them. I love working the road and having the dog with me because I have automatic backup if I need it,” Riley said. Rocky is a narcotics patrol dog.

Staff Sgt. Clint Butler, kennel master and the one who is responsible for matching dogs with handlers, said, “Participating in this competition allowed instillations and their handlers to show how much work is really involved in the training of military working dogs.”

He said these types of competitions also show the community that the Fort Huachuca Department of Public Safety provides the best possible assets to the post for force protection.

“They worked pretty hard and it shows,” Butler said.



# Knowledge is power!

By Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart  
Scout News Editor

Educational professionals from around the country gathered at Cochise College for a Servicemembers Opportunity College workshop held Dec. 4-5. Some of the topics covered included an overview of SOC, the SOC degree network system and SOC on the Web.

SOC is a consortium of higher education associations and over 1,500 colleges and universities that offer associates, bachelor's and graduate degrees.

SOC also partners with the American Council on Education to provide servicemembers college credit for military experience.

"Guaranteed transferability is at the heart of the hole system," said Kathy Snead, national SOC Army Degrees project director.

SOC functions in cooperation with the Department of Defense, and all of the military services including the Coast Guard, the National Guard and the Reserves. Snead, who is a military spouse herself, said family members can also participate in the SOC degree program.

The workshop had two goals, including informing attendees about service-specific SOC programs and highlighting ways colleges can use the SOC program to recruit and retain active-duty servicemembers, reserve components members, and veterans.

She walked participants through the agreement that SOC students sign. "This is what they should be following in order to complete their degree," Snead said. The degree plan shows students what courses they need for degree completion and what institutions throughout the United States carry those courses so students won't have to start over every time

they undergo a permanent change of station.

Snead said SOC constantly evaluates courses across the educational spectrum from accounting principles to welding to make sure colleges and universities in the SOC system will accept transfer credits from students who are in the SOC system. "Someone might call an English class freshman composition as opposed to writing. We have evaluated over 400 classes in the associate and bachelor's degree program," Snead said.

Benjamin Buckley, project director of the Concurrent Admissions Program provided participants information regarding the National Guard and Reserves. He pointed out 76 percent of enlisted personnel join the Guard for educational benefits. He said they tend to have a higher retention and graduation rate and are eligible for Officer Candidate School with 60 semester hours of college credit.

Buckley also informed the attendees about the Distributive Learning Technology Project whose goal is to establish a distance learning site within 50 miles or 50 minutes of every Guard soldier.

"Many are not aware of all of their education benefits," Buckley said. "That is what we are about. 'Untutored courage is useless in the face of educated bullets,'" said Dennis Sherrod, director of the Fort Huachuca Education Center Directorate, quoting Gen. George Patton.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart

**Benjamin Buckley, project director of the Concurrent Admissions Program provided the conference participants information regarding the National Guard and Reserves.**

"The smarter we make a soldier in our classrooms, the smarter they are on the battlefield. This was a great partnering effort on behalf of the Education Services Directorate and Cochise College. Teamwork like this is crucial for a successful program," Sherrod said.

For more information, visit <http://www.soc.aascu.org/> or, <http://www.soc.aascu.org/socguard>.

## DANTES special enlisted advisor visits Fort Huachuca

By Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart  
Scout News Editor

"The next time you are at the Fort Huachuca Commissary you should go across the street for some brain food," said Master Gunnery Sgt. James O'Keefe, the Special enlisted advisor to the Director of the Defense Activity Nontraditional Education Support.

DANTES provides voluntary education support to the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, the Coast Guard and the Reserves.

O'Keefe visited Fort Huachuca during a two-day education conference held at Cochise College during Dec. 4-5. While here, he visited the Education Center, Building 52104, which is across the street diagonally from the Commissary. He attended the conference to provide Arizona education professionals an update brief on DANTES program and services.

As the DANTES special enlisted advisor he conducts site visits to military installations DoD-wide and often asks servicemembers, "Do you know where the Education Center is?"

He said, "DANTES provides support to the Education Center professional who support the sailor, the airmen, the soldier, the Coast Guardsmen, and the Marine. I also ask the question, 'How can DANTES provide better support?'" He then provides feedback for DANTES program improvement.

A former artilleryman, O'Keefe earned

his bachelor's of science degree during his time on active duty. His present duties include advising the director of DANTES regarding voluntary education issues, needs, and requirements affecting all uniformed servicemembers. He develops and presents DANTES briefings, manages special projects.

"I strive to reinforce the fact that the Education Center is a big resource for our servicemembers," O'Keefe said. "Before a soldier pursues their college education, they need to visit the Ed Center. They can save time and money towards completing their degree; it can prevent them from taking un-

Services Subject Standardized Tests and the Excelisor College Exam. Servicemembers who test can earn college credit at over 2,800 accredited colleges and universities. They can also take college entrance tests for free at the testing centers.

O'Keefe pointed out, "The Fort Huachuca Education Center has Education Center Counselors, institutional representatives, and in-house classroom space all under one roof. This is exceptional one-stop shopping for our servicemembers," O'Keefe noted.

"Dennis Sherrod, and his staff of dedi-

**Dennis Sherrod, and his staff of dedicated professionals are devoted to providing excellent service to every military member on the installation.**

**Master Gunnery Sgt. James O'Keefe, special enlisted advisor to the Director of the Defense Activity Nontraditional Education Support.**

necessary steps. For the adult learner, time is more important than money," he said. He also pointed out servicemembers who earn American Council of Education recommended credit by examination save tuition assistance dollars as well as taxpayer money.

The Testing Center in the Education Center gave over 3,450 tests last fiscal year, according to Dennis Sherrod, Education Center director.

These figures include 253 DANTES exams, 508 Military Classification Exams and 2,689 college exams, and various Basic Skills Exams, practice College Level Examination Practice tests and practice General Education Development exams.

Sherrod continued, "The bottom line is that we have a very high pass rate for the DANTES exams. This saves us money because if a soldier passes the exam and makes the American Council on Education recommended score, then he does not have to take a class and use Tuition Assistance. Fort Huachuca saved over \$80,000 last year using this cost avoidance initiative," Sherrod said.

O'Keefe went on to note servicemembers who participate in voluntary education programs are more apt to get promoted, stay out of trouble and stay in the military because they feel like they belong.

"They are building a success story," O'Keefe said. At the DANTES test centers located at Education Centers on military installations servicemembers can take the CLEP test, the DANTES

cated professionals are devoted to providing excellent service to every military member on the installation, their service is invaluable which is important because the staff is grooming leaders for today and tomorrow," O'Keefe said.

O'Keefe pointed out that through DANTES servicemembers are also able to take the interest inventories. "It's important for them to see their end goal and to plan backwards.

Interest inventories provide an introductory foundation that will help them to decide 'what they want to be when they grow up,'" he pointed out.

The Troops to Teachers program also falls under the DANTES umbrella. Its purpose is to recruit high quality teachers to help relive teacher shortages, primarily in math, science and special education subjects.

Each state's teaching certification requirements are different and TTT helps to clarify the certification process. State TTT provides counseling services, a message board, and job referrals.

For more information regarding the Arizona Troops to Teacher program contact Sue Collins, the director of the Arizona Troops to Teachers Arizona Department of Education at [scollin@ade.az.gov](mailto:scollin@ade.az.gov) or visit [www.proudtoserveagain.com](http://www.proudtoserveagain.com).

"First Lady Laura Bush is a strong advocate of Troops to Teachers. Her promotion of this program has prompted strong interest. Data shows that 75 percent of those enrolled in the program are still teaching after five years," O'Keefe pointed out.

"The best overall education guidance I can give our servicemembers is go to your Education Center. You will be glad you did."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart

**Master Gunnery Sgt. James O'Keefe, the Special enlisted advisor to the director of the Defense Activity Nontraditional Education Support visited**



## SOCAD, provides military evaluations

*Special to the Scout*

SOCAD is the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges degree program for the Army. It consists of colleges that offer associate and bachelor's degree programs, on or accessible to, Army installations worldwide. These colleges have joined together to form networks in which each college accepts credits from all the others.

This guarantees that Army students and their adult family members can continue toward completion of their degrees even though the Army may transfer them several times. There are also degrees available by distance learning that require no classroom residency.

You may be eligible for college credit if you have successfully completed:

- Basic training
- Service schools offered by the Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Air Force or Navy
- Courses offered by the U.S. Department of Defense
- Selected Air Force, Coast Guard, or Marine courses
- National Guard and Reserve courses
- DANTES Subject Standardized tests.

You also may qualify for college credit if you have qualified in:

- An Army enlisted or warrant officer MOS
- A Coast Guard rating, warrant officer specialty, or an officer aviator designation
- A Navy general rate or rating
- A Navy limited duty officer or warrant officer specialty
- A selected Marine Corps MOS

### Education Center operation hours:

7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday  
7 a.m. - noon Friday

### Computer Lab:

7 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday, 7 a.m. - noon, Friday  
9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Saturday  
1 p.m. - 5 p.m., Sunday

### Military Occupational Library:

7:30 a.m. - 4:30 Monday -Thursday  
7:30 a.m. - noon Friday



# 36th Army Band presents ‘Through a Child’s Eyes’ at Buena



Spc. Christ Boltinghouse, Sgt. Luigi Baccala, and Spc. Daniel Welch performed the Chipmunk Song to the audience’s delight Monday. The 36th Army Band performed the Christmas production Through a Child’s Eyes at the Buena Performing Arts Center.

Photos by Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart



Chief Warrant Officer 3 Gary W. Dorrell, commander of the 36th Army Band, leads his Christmas orchestra which performed crowd favorites such as Jingle Bells Forever, A Carol of the Drum and Parade of the Icicles. The stage family looks on as Sgt. 1st Class Ted LeSuer sing Winter Wonderland.

The 36th Army Band also performed Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy, Jingle Bells Forever and A Festival of Carols.



Mother Angel Hlidebrand, and Christo Visser, father watches while “children” John Haas, Sarah Haas, Andrea Rodriguez, and Audra Rodriguez have a snow fight.

## Committed to staying in – reenlisting soldiers for November



Fort Huachuca, a great place to reenlist since 1877, stay Army!

### Post Retention Office

Each month the Post Retention Office will acknowledge Fort Huachuca soldiers who reenlist and stay Army. The following soldiers reenlisted during the month of November:

### 111th Military Intelligence Brigade

Master Sgt: William Glessner  
Sgt. 1st Class: John May III  
Staff Sgt.: Carl Cunningham, James Manis, Robert Collins, Paula Bennett  
Spc.: Jessica Robinson, Christopher Gray

### 112th Military Intelligence Brigade

Staff Sgt.: Dustin Cloos  
Sgt.: Melanie Shafer, Joseph Rodwell III

### U.S. Army Garrison

Spc.: Charles Nehr

### 11th Signal Brigade

Staff Sgt.: Frank Lett, Walter Roberts IV, Darrel Axtell, Douglas Mahanke  
Sgt.: Michael Harris, AB Johnson Jr., Lakeisha Matthews, Jackie Milline, Billy

Stanley, Kevin Shipp, Benjamin Rhode, Brian Hawkins, Ayana Edwards, Noah Daly, Braulio Jaime-Silva Jr.

Spc.: Paul Musgrave, Scott Cambbell, Michael Kruk

### Tenant units

Master Sgt: Ernest Doyal Jr., Joint Interoperability Command  
Staff Sgt.: Alwin Andres, Medical Activity  
Sgt.: Lee Mish, Criminal Investigation Division  
Spc.: Pequan Robinson, MEDDAC

## Tis the season...to reenlist, protect reenlistment bonus entitlements

### Fort Huachuca Retention Office

Undecided about reenlisting? If collecting a bonus is an issue, soldiers need not wait to late to collect.

“The best way to guarantee that you will get the reenlistment bonus that is currently authorized for your MOS is to reenlist today,” said Master Sgt. Larry Pitts, senior installation career counselor for Fort Huachuca. “There are many changes happening in the reenlistment field and changes to the MOS (military occupational skill) listings will be happening much quicker than before.”

While recently attending the Army World Wide Retention Training Seminar Pitts and other career counselors from locations throughout the world learned that notification of changes to the Selective Reenlistment Bonus MOS listing may happen overnight.

This is due in large part to a lack of funds for the SRB Program. Ronald Canada, chief of the Army’s Retention Management Division, explained that bonus money available this year is far below what was allotted during Fiscal

Year ‘02.

In FY 2002 the Army had \$75 million available for the SRB program and ran out in August. This year, the Army has been given \$41 million with over \$13 million of that used by the first week of November.

With this in mind, Canada said that the ability to give four week notifications of changes is doubtful.

“Take it while it’s there” advises Sgt. 1st Class Chris Melton, 112th Military Intelligence Brigade career counselor.

Sgt. 1st Class Duiane M. Serafini of the 111th Military Intelligence Brigade agrees and adds, “It may be seem like a smart idea to wait for some type of pay raise and then reenlist but that’s not always the case.

“Many people had to put reenlistment on hold in August this year when the SRB Program was suspended. Luckily, the same MOS listing was reinstated but we won’t be so lucky in the future.”

So what’s your best chance to protect your entitlements? See your career counselor for all of the details on Selective Reenlistment Bonuses.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Sharron Stewart

## O’ Christmas tree

With the aid of children in the audience who shouted “Let there be light,” Brig. Gen. John M. Custer, acting commander of Fort Huachuca and the United States Army Intelligence Center led the community in officially kicking off the holiday season Dec. 5 during the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony held at the Main Post Chapel. Following the ceremony that included the lighting of the post Christmas tree, a menorah and a nativity scene, the 36th Army Band performed a Christmas concert.

## AAFES Military Star care deployment policy

As a reminder to all those servicemembers who may be deploying in the near future, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service has an established deployment policy for its deployed credit card account holders.

The plan offers Military Star card (formerly DPP) deployed account holders a reduced interest rate and no payments for those who are deployed for at least 90 days in conjunction with a JCS deployment order.

The plan provides the Military Star card deployed account holders whose account is in good standing (i.e., not in “collection” status) two options:

1. A six percent interest rate and the ability to continue to utilize the account during the deployment period while making no payments.
- or
2. A zero percent interest rate during the deployment period, while making no payments. No charges can be made against the account during the period of deployment under this option.

To take advantage of AAFES’ Star card contingency deployment policy, Unit Com-

manders (or their representatives) must first provide AAFES a deployment listing by one of the following methods:

Upon confirmation of deployment status of

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. By mail:<br>AAFES-HQ<br>P.O. Box 650739<br>Dallas, TX<br>75265-0739 | 2. By fax:<br>DSN: 967-4326<br>Commercial:<br>214-312-4326 |
|--|--|

or

3. By internet:  
Send deployment listing to  
[deployment@aafes.com](mailto:deployment@aafes.com).

servicemembers, AAFES will automatically default to option one (six percent interest rate with no payments and full charge privileges during the deployment period). If the servicemember chooses option two (zero percent interest with no payments and no charge privileges during deployment period), the service member must notify AAFES through one of the methods detailed above.

For additional information, servicemembers can contact the local AAFES exchange General Manager, Dave Nelson at 458-7210.

## Pets of the Week



I am Tiger, the adorable 5-month-old orange tabby. I am very calm and love to cuddle. My adoption fee is \$42 which includes my neutering,

microchip, leukemia test, vaccinations and deworming.



My name is Tiger and I am a sleek brown tabby, who is good with children, loves to sit in your lap, especially after a long day. My adoption fee is

\$42 which includes my spay, microchip, deworming, and leukemia test.

These and several other dogs and cats are available at the Fort Huachuca Veterinary Treatment Facility from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. The facility is now open through lunch. For information, call 533-2767.



My name is Scarlett and I am a gorgeous black and tan shepard mix. I am housebroken, love children and I am spayed. I am very gentle and love to cuddle. My

adoption fee is \$22 which includes a heartworm test and a dewormer. I am already microchipped and have my vaccines.



Hi, I’m Rocky, a German rottweiler. I am good with children, housebroken, fixed, and just love attention. I am big and playful as can be. My adoption fee

is \$32 which gets me a heartworm test, dewormer, and a microchip.



# Community Updates



## Legal notice

This notice is to inform the community that a Summary Court Martial officer has been appointed to finalize the affairs of Staff Sgt. Courtney A. Her-

ring, Company C, 304th Military Intelligence Battalion, who died in an automotive accident Nov. 12. Persons having property belonging to the deceased should call Chief Warrant Officer 3 Nick Ashby at 538-1107. It is also advised that people who the deceased is indebted to or who are indebted to the deceased should also call Ashby at the number above.

## Commanders Hotline

Get a formal response to your issue or concern in just 10 working days with the Commanders Hotline. Call 533-BOSS (533-2677) or e-mail [commanders-hotline@hua.army.mil](mailto:commanders-hotline@hua.army.mil).

## DOIM relocation

The Directorate of Installation Management classroom has moved from Building 22324 on Christy Avenue to Building 52104. Building 52104 is located at 2288 La Guardia Street That is the education building across the street from Barnes Field House. This move is effective immediately. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mike Trivitt at 533-8523.

## Minimal staff

The Headquarters Information Security and Communications Electronics Communications Acquisition center will be minimally staffed today beginning at 11 a.m. due to their holiday party celebration. For emergencies call the Employment Opportunity

Center at 538-6076.

## Would you like to work with Wettie the Waterdrop?

The Water Wise Energy Smart Program on Fort Huachuca is looking for someone to help educate the Fort Huachuca community about energy and water conservation, and natural resource stewardship.

For more information, or to apply for this paid, part-time position, check out the *Fort Huachuca Scout* Classifieds under *Instructional Specialist*, or job announcement number 25250 on the URL posting on the Website at [www.hr.arizona.edu/25250xacxptxoutx.htm](http://www.hr.arizona.edu/25250xacxptxoutx.htm).

## QAO closure

The Quality Assurance Office will close at 11 a.m. Wednesday for a holiday luncheon and celebration at The Outside Inn. In case of a QAO emergency, call cell phone number 559-3689. Happy holidays.

## Range closures

Range closures for today through Dec. 18.

Today—AG, AN, AU, AW, T1, T1A, T2  
\*Friday—AG, AH, AK, AL, AM, AN, AR, AU, AW, T1, T1A, T2  
\*Saturday—No Closures except the East Range  
\*Sunday—T1, T1A, T2  
\*Monday—AG, AO, AU, T1, T1A, T2  
\*Tuesday—AG, AO, AU, AW, T1, T1A, T2  
\*Dec. 18—AG, AH, AK, AL, AO, AR, AU, T1, T1A, T2

## \*The East Range is close to all big game hunts.

For more information on range closures call Range Control 533-7095.

## Marathon volunteers needed

The Thunder Mountain Marathon is March 22, 2003. This world class marathon will take place on the roads of Sierra Vista and Fort Huachuca.

Volunteers are needed to set up and tear down the race headquarters, man barricades and water points. You do not have to be a marathon runner to participate in this annual event.

To volunteer for these events please contact the Installation Volunteer Coordinator, Jo Richter at 538-4823. Her office is located in the Murr Community Center or e-mail her at [jo.richter@hua.army.mil](mailto:jo.richter@hua.army.mil).

## Scholarships for military children

The 2003 scholarships for military children program is now open. These are \$1,500 scholarships sponsored by the defense commissary agency and administered by the Fisher House Foundation. Factors to be considered include grades, community involvement, activities and an essay.

Applications can be downloaded for the 2003 program at [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com) or [www.fisherhouse.org](http://www.fisherhouse.org). They can also be picked up at any commissary. The program is open to dependent unmarried children, under the age of 23, of active duty personnel, Reserve, Guard and retired military. Applicants should ensure they're currently enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting Systems database and have a current identification card.

The applicant must be planning to attend, or already attending, an accredited college or university full-time in the fall term of 2003. The deadline for returning applications by hand or mail to a commissary is Feb. 21, 2003. For more information call Judy Mendez, commissary manager at 533-5540.

## DRM closure

The Directorate of Resource Management will be closed 1130 a.m.-4 p.m., Dec. 18 for their holiday party. Call Debbie Matsumoto at 538-6419 for the Financial Management Division and Alice Hoselton at 533-5874 for the Management Accounting Office and other resource management issues.

## Closure of Installation ASP

The Installation Ammunition Supply Point will be closed Dec. 27-31 for a quarterly inventory.

Emergencies need to be directed to Manny Bringas at the ASP, telephone 533-2512 or Mr. Jose Fierros at telephone 533-3617.

## OSJA section closure

The Military Justice section of the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate will be closed today due to courts-martials, boards, and the magistrates docket. We apologize for the inconvenience and will re-open Friday at 8:30 a.m.

## DOIM routine maintenance

The Directorate of Information Management will be performing routine maintenance on all Exchange Servers (including SIPRNET) and the ATZS server farm beginning at 7 a.m. on Sunday. Estimated downtime is approximately two hours for NIPRNET Exchange, two hours for SIPRNET Exchange. Electronic mail service will not be available during this time; connectivity to the server farm may be intermittent.

## DOC holiday closure

The Directorate of Contracting will be closed from 12:30 p.m. through the close of business on Friday for their holiday celebration. Call Wilma J. Rose at 559-2008 for emergencies.

## ACS holiday staff party

Army Community Service will be closed from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday for their annual holiday staff party. This is a correction of the date previously listed as Friday. If you have any questions call Dennis Brock at 533-5719.

## Travel settlement voucher submission information

Recent guidance from DFAS-Indianapolis Travel Operations is that only one copy of the following is required for Temporary Duty settlement vouchers:

DD Form 1351-2 (travel voucher or subvoucher), travel order, lodging receipt, commercially procured transportation receipt (air, train, rental car, etc.), registration/conference fee receipt, miscellaneous expense exceeding \$75, DD 730 (proof of return of unused ticket.)

If vouchers are mailed, original copy of settlement voucher and receipts are requested. For more information, call Tee Fuimaono, Directorate of Resource Management, 533-1361.

## Blood drive

Please join Alpha Company 305th Military Intelligence Battalion Friday at Eifler gym from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. They will be hosting the 111th MI Brigade Red Cross blood drive. Atleast 350 donors are needed.

Give the gift of life this holiday season, donate blood.

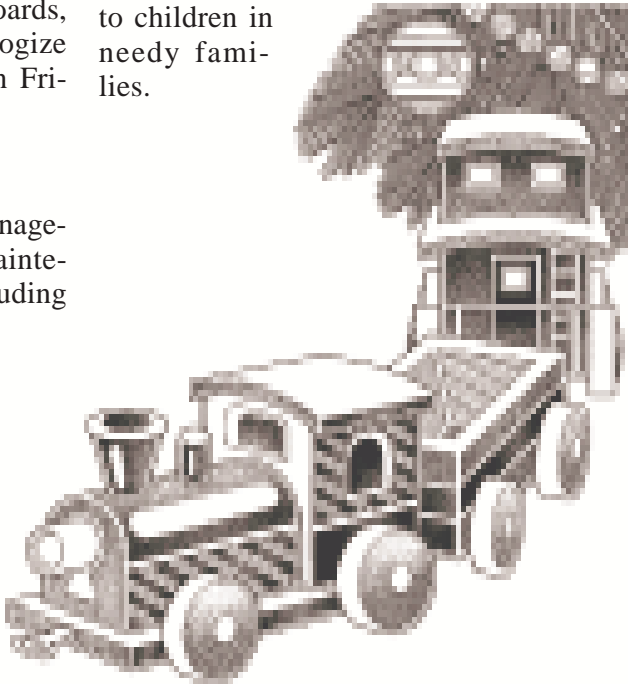
Remember to drink extra water and eat a small meal 2-4 hours before donating. Point of contac is 1st Lt. Debbie DeRienzo at 533-6802 or The Red Cross at 1-800-GIVE-LIFE.

## MDA assists Toys for Tots drive

The national headquarters of the Muscular Dystrophy Association once again will serve as a drop-off location for the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program.

New, unwrapped toys, books or sporting equipment for children may be delivered to the MDA lobby, 3300 E. Sunrise Drive, Tucson, weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., through Dec. 20.

This is the fifth consecutive year in which MDA has participated in the Toys for Tots program. Local MDA staff contribute heavily to the toy drive, which provides holiday gifts to children in needy families.



Courtesy photo

**Pictured here are from left to right: Jamie R. Rodriguez, Benjamin Rodriguez and Gabriel Rodriguez. Crew member Benjamin is fingerprinting his brother Gabriel as a study of fingerprints for his Boy Scout merit badge requirements.**

## Local Scouts perform community service at the first annual “Mugs-n-Thugs” seminar

### Special to the Scout

Members of the Sunrise Rotary Club's Venturing Crew 464 held the first annual Crime Prevention Seminar dubbed "Mugs-n-Thugs" on Nov. 23 at the Sierra Vista United Methodist Church. The purpose of the seminar was to expose the Cub Scouts of Pack 445 to various methods of personal safety and crime prevention techniques. The seminar's activities included finger-painting, DNA sampling, and security awareness stations. The Crew and Cub Scouts who participated earned a crime prevention award for all their hard work.

Crew 464 members of that earned their crime prevention award include Jamie Rodriguez, Christopher Steward, Erica Steward, Benjamin Rodriguez, Tyler Newton, and Edward Subia. Approximately 40 Cub Scouts from Pack 445 will also earn their Crime Prevention Patch.

Crew 464 and Cub Scout Pack 445 are part of the Catalina Council, Boy Scouts of America. Crew 464 is made up of young men and women, ages 14 through 21, who are interested in high adventure and making a difference in the Sierra Vista community.

For more information, or to join a unit in the Sierra Vista area call Chief Warrant 2 Tammy Rodriguez at 803-7530 or 1st Sgt. Kristine Sleighter.

Editor's note: This will be the last week the Community Events Calender will run this year. It will restart in January, we apologize for the inconvenience.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Have you heard? The Fort Huachuca Scout has only two weeks left for print. The final edition for 2002 is Dec. 19.



**12**  
• SV Optimist Club meets at 6:30 a.m. at the Landmark Café. Call Robert Atkinson at 459-2711  
• National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11a.m. at OYCC. Call 378-6605 for details.  
• Huachuca Area Retired Teachers Association meets at OYCC at 10 a.m.  
• Early Release for Fort Huachuca Schools. Myer, Kindergarten at 1:20 p.m. Grades 4 & 5 at 1:30p.m. Johnston, grades 1 – 3 at 1:15 p.m. and Smith, Grades 6-8 at 1:40 p.m.

**13**  
• Buena HS half-day In-Service Day.  
• Blood Drive at Eifler Gym from 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. remember to drive lots of fluids the day before and eat a light snack before you donate.  
• Rollin' Thunder Skate Park 5 – 9 p.m. for teens only. Call 533-3205 for information. Open to the public.  
• Rollerskating at Youth Services, Bldg. 49013 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Call 533-3205 for details.  
• City of Sierra Vista Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony begins at 6 p.m. at City Hall.

**14**  
• Youth Services at Bldg. 49013 has open recreation from 1 – 8 p.m. Call 533-3205 for info.  
• Rollin' Thunder Skate Park is open 1 - 6 p.m. Call 533-3205 for information. Open to the public.

MCC = Murr Community Center

MPC = Main Post Chapel

OYCC = Oscar Yrun Community Center

Army Family Team Building classes and information at Murr Community Center, 533-3686 or 533-2330



# What the Reserve component needs to know about the TRICARE dental program

## TRICARE release

The TRICARE Dental Program offers a wide range of diagnostic, preventive and restorative dental services and is available to members and families of the Selected Reserve and Individual Ready Reserve.

Enrollment in the TDP is voluntary, and reserve component sponsors do not have to be activated to enroll themselves or their families in the TDP. There are, however, important differences in coverage for family members when their reserve component sponsors are activated versus when they are in a reserve status.

Reserve component sponsors who are activated are covered by the same dental benefits as active duty service members. Sponsors placed on active duty orders for 31 days or more are ineligible for enrollment in the TDP. If previously enrolled in the TDP, they will be automatically disenrolled and automatically re-enrolled upon deactivation. The sponsor should confirm re-enrollment before seeking dental treatment.

For family members, the main difference in TDP is the premium cost. Reserve component family members who enroll in the TDP before their sponsor is called to active duty will enjoy a cost savings when their sponsor is activated. The current premium rate for reserve component family enrollment is \$49.36 per month. When the sponsor is activated, fees decrease to \$19.74 per month.

Many families enroll after a sponsor is ordered to active duty. When these families enroll, they pay the active duty family premium rate of \$19.74 per month. When the sponsor is released from active duty, enrollment fees increase to \$49.36 per month. It is also important to remember that pre-

mium rates change in January of each year.

The TDP requires a 12-month enrollment commitment; however, this commitment is waived for non-TDP-enrolled families whose sponsor is ordered to active duty in support of certain contingency operations, but only if the family is enrolled in the TDP within the first 30 days of activation. If a family enrolls after the initial 30 days of activation, they will be locked in to the TDP for 12 months.

Reserve component family members must decide to enroll in the TDP within the first 30 days of their sponsor's activation to take advantage of waiving the 12-month enrollment commitment. This will provide reserve component families the freedom to choose to remain enrolled in the TDP or disenroll if their sponsor is released from active duty before the completion of the 12-month enrollment period.

The TDP is administered by United Concordia Companies Inc. For more information about the TDP, beneficiaries may access the benefit handbook online at [www.ucci.com](http://www.ucci.com) or by calling toll free 1-800-866-8499, 24 hours a day.

Members residing outside the continental United States should call 1-888-418-0466 (toll free). This telephone number is available in the following countries:

Australia, Bahrain, Belgium, Bolivia, Columbia, Egypt, Ger-



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

**Enrollment in the TRICARE Dental Program is voluntary for all reservists to receive dental care such as preventive and restorative dental services.**

many, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom. At all other locations, members should call 1-717-975-5017. Representatives are available to assist members in English, German and Italian 24 hours a day, Monday through Friday.

## Chalk Talk

### Myer School News

#### Calendar of Events

- Monday—4th Grade Music Program at 1p.m., school gym.
- Tuesday—5th grade Music Program at 1 p.m., school gym.
- Wednesday—Beginning Band Concert at 1:30 p.m., school gym.
- Dec. 19—School Assembly at 12:45 p.m., school gym.
- Christmas Break will start after school is out on Dec. 20 and students will return to school on Jan. 6.

Jennifer Rodabaugh's kindergarten class has been learning about measurement and the holiday traditions of other countries. They made their own balance scales and measured their height. The students are visiting different countries, by reading books, and learning about how they celebrate different holidays.

Betty Davis' kindergarten students and parents made gingerbread houses last Friday. They used small milk cartons, store bought can frosting and many different kinds of candies. The students are also having fun making sentences with their reading sight words.

Kathy Haakenson's kindergarten students have found lots of enjoyable things happening with Fall days and all the holidays close together. Halloween and Thanksgiving were fun and now they are looking to celebrating Christmas.

They are counting down the days till Christmas by using paper chains and practicing Christmas songs. For their Christmas party they will have a used or new book exchange. They continue working on learning the letter sounds, numbers, counting, and graphing.

Allison Spencer's kindergarten class has been learning the letters (how to write and sounds) of Rr, Ee, Hh, Ff, Xx, and Bb. They have been learning to match numerals to sets (0-10). They have been listening to holiday stories, learning their lines and holiday songs for a program they will present to friends and fam-

ily on Thursday at 12:15 p.m.

Magellan Running Club: top 4th grade girls were Angel Green and Amadi Cooper from Priscilla Mendoza's room with 57 points. Top 4th-grade boy was Zack Malotte from Tom Crawford's room with 67 points. Top fourth grade class was Jan Barnes' room with 90 miles. Top fifth- grade girl was Tasha Saffo from Bonnie Burleson's room with 59 points. Top fifth- grade boy was Raymond Pyle from Desiree Madarang's room with 76 points. Top fifth grade class was Bonnie Burleson's room with 236 miles. The students ran 975 miles last week with a total of 12,899 for the year.

Special thanks goes to Rosa Vascon, her husband and daughter for helping with the parade on Saturday. Special thanks to all the kids and parents who took part to help make for a fun day. Katrina Wheelock, Tim, Holly and Heidi Hamric were also a great help. It was a day that all of us will long remember.

The Preschoolers in Bonnie Austin's and Teresa Sottolare's classes are having a jolly time. They are busy making their gifts to give their parents for Christmas. The kids are learning about the colors red and green, perfect time of year for that! The shape for the month is the "star." On Dec. 18 the children will wear their pajamas to school for a cozy storytelling and hot cocoa activity.



Johnston photo

## Wettie learners are Wettie winners

**Students in Ginger Volkman's third- grade class at Col. Johnston Elementary School participated in an eight-week series of Water Wise and Energy Smart lessons. From left to right are Yongjin Smith, Madison Byrd and Janetta Sherred. These three students are sharing data they collected showing how much water they each used in one week for specific activities. To schedule a class, call Ginger Maxey, Fort Huachuca's Energy and Water Conservation Educator at 538-7283.**

"Soldiers in TRADOC have an advantage over troops in the field," Prentice said. "For example, during operations in Afghanistan soldiers had to operate in a winter environment without heat tents and operations cannot be stopped to allow soldiers to warm up.

"In TRADOC, though, there is no excuse for unnecessarily exposing soldiers to weather-related injuries."

## WINTER from Page 1

out suffering injuries. In summer heat trainees can only perform heavy tasks for a prescribed amount of time so they're not affected by high heat.

"Soldiers performing sedentary training or duty in cold weather are at risk of becoming a cold casualty, even during times where the temperature is above freezing and it may be deceptively warm," DeKoning said.

"Soldiers on guard duty who stand for

long periods, or people who check IDs at the gates are at most risk," he said.

Training commanders and cadre must apply risk management to selecting the best training approach to protect trainees from winter elements, the doctor said.

To help them, DeKoning and the Army Medical Command have added Cold Casualty Risk Management Guidelines on a website at [chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/coldinjury](http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/coldinjury).

## DRIVING from Page 1

rage, you are being charged with assault," Fero said.

Fero said road rage is defined as an assault with a motor vehicle or other dangerous weapon by the operator or passengers of one motor vehicle on the operator or passenger of another motor vehicle or vehicles precipitated by an incident which occurred on a roadway.

Some of the contributing factors in the local area is the fact that the there has been a 23 percent increase in the population, a 72 percent increase in the number of drivers and a 143 percent increase in area household vehicles.

"The result is more traffic on the road," Fero said. Fero also cited the arrogant driver attitude.

Some of the causes of road rage can be running behind schedule, bad time management, impatience with other drivers, daily stress, and problems at work.

"Don't become an offender," Fero urged. He said drivers should obey the speed limit, use turn signals, keep right except to pass and avoid tailgating.

He also said drivers should use their headlights appropriately and not use them to flash others in a threatening manner.

"Time management and reduction in stress should also help drivers to avoid road rage. If you have to be at work at 8 a.m. then don't leave at 10 minutes to 8."

He also said those who are harassed by aggressive drivers should not retaliate. "Be forgiving, and don't try to pay them back. When another driver acts aggressively towards me, I don't even make eye contact," Fero said.

In order to avoid becoming a victim, he said drivers should be courteous, avoid making eye contact with drivers, and ignore challenges.

They should move from the offender and if worse comes to worse, they should report the aggressive driver to the proper authorities.

"This year we are enforcing 'Operation Chill' because we want drivers to keep their cool," Fero said.

During the holiday season, the Arizona DPS will increase patrols and use unmarked

## Taming the road warrior: curbing aggressive driving

### Special to the Scout

Dangerous driving behaviors are becoming more common on crowded roads and causing concern for citizens, safety advocates, law enforcement and policymakers.

This phenomenon, known as aggressive driving-or road rage, in its most extreme form-presents a challenge to state legislators who are worried about traffic safety.

Recent surveys show that drivers in some areas fear aggressive drivers more than drunk drivers. And the number of in-

cidents of aggressive driving continues to increase every year.

According to California psychologist Arnold Nerenberg there are four factors leading to road rage.

- Feeling endangered, such as being cut off.
- Being detained by other drivers who are going slowly.
- Watching other people breaking the rules of the road.
- Feeling the need to retaliate.

Road rage is dangerous to the individual expressing it and is dangerous because of potential retaliation.

works with Students Against Destructive Decisions, which is designed to inform those who are under 21 of the consequences of underage drinking.

He talks to middle schools and high schools and is available to give presentations to youth groups.

## HOTLINE from Page 1

"running an intersection" when an unsuspecting driver figures the road guard has traffic directing authority.

### Response

You are absolutely correct; it is imperative that we ensure the safety of all personnel, particularly during physical training. To ensure you are aware, the physical training road guards are tasked to perform their duties in accordance with FH REG 600-2 (Physical Training Areas). This policy is currently under revision and any input to the Fort Huachuca Safety Office would be appreciated and considered.

In reference to your concern, the TCPs (while admittedly some may be inexperienced) are authorized to both stop and waive through traffic when deemed safe to do so. The Directorate of Public Safety has arranged a train the trainer course in order to provide any unit tasked to provide TCPs with the proper conduct of a TCP.

Additionally, the military police only cite those individuals who fail to comply with the TCPs. As you have already indicated, failure to comply with a TCP (regardless of whether or not they are an MP) endangers the TCP as well as those conducting physical training. This form of traffic law enforcement is consistent with the overall goal of the DPS, which is the provision of a safe operational environment for the entire Fort Huachuca community.

If you view an unsafe act, by all means take every possible measure to stop it, bearing in mind your own safety. Please do not hesitate to call the military police if you feel that traffic during physical training is not obeying the rules and laws of the road. Thank you for your concern over the safety of all soldiers and residents on Fort Huachuca.

**Maj. Dan Ortega**  
*Director of Public Safety*